Nixon Is Planning to Donate Some Papers to U.S.:NYTimes 2/18/75

Je reads stipulations corresctly as I understand them. However, some explanations may help and I do not see words that guarantee a separate Nixon library. I think it more likely a) Nixon wants them close by for his own use and b) probably at Eockwell's concrete white elephant. The gift is good p.r. for Nixon and the terms not reported are probably pivotal. Sampson probably agreed to keep them secret as long as Nixon wants. Among the effects is the Government defending suits for access. Like by an Alger Hiss or one working on that case.

The law permits such secrecy deals.

They are not called that. They appears as conditions to be specified by the donor. I've been through this with the JFK autopsy materials.

Now all those deals are with the administrator of GSA and he normally delegates to the Archivist. In practise each Presidential library is a part of the National Archives.

What I am saying is that this is a deal whereby Nixon can unload all maintainance and storage costs-even organization of files - on the government while preserving the exclusive use of those files for himself and anyone he designates. Like researchers, ghosts. He'll have all they are worth for himself and none of the cost while appearing to be a real nice guy to give so much away.

Got any idea what just organizing and filing 1,200 cu ft of files can run to? And security costs? Maybe indexing, too?

Last I heard all that stuff was in boxes.

HW 3/12/75